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State of Nevada

Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Child and Family Services,
Clark County Department of Family Services
Washoe County Department of Social Services

Child Welfare Presentation
February 2017

Mission



Child welfare agencies in Nevada believe families are the primary providers for children's needs. The safety and well-being of children is dependent upon the safety and well-being of all family members. Children, youth and families are best served when staff actively listens to them and invite participation in decision-making. We support full implementation of family centered practice by engaging families in child and family teams and offering individualized services to build upon strengths and meet the identified needs of the family.

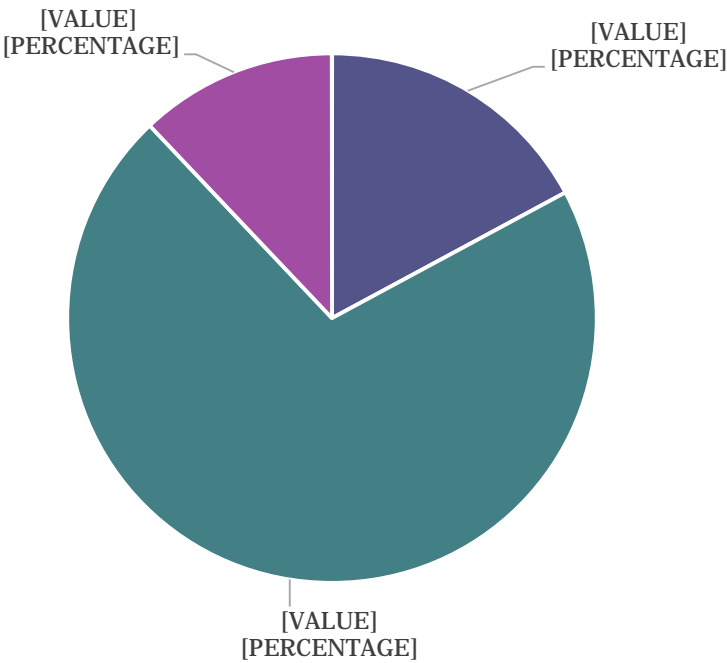
Nevada's Child Welfare Structure



- Per NRS 432B.180, Nevada uses a state-supervised, county-administered structure for the management of child welfare services. DCFS has state oversight for county administered child welfare services delivery providing technical assistance, fiscal oversight for federal monies, and quality improvement activities.
- Per NRS 432B.030, In counties whose population is 100,000 or more (Clark County and Washoe County) the county agency is responsible for child welfare services.
- In the remaining 15 Rural counties, DCFS provides the direct child welfare services.

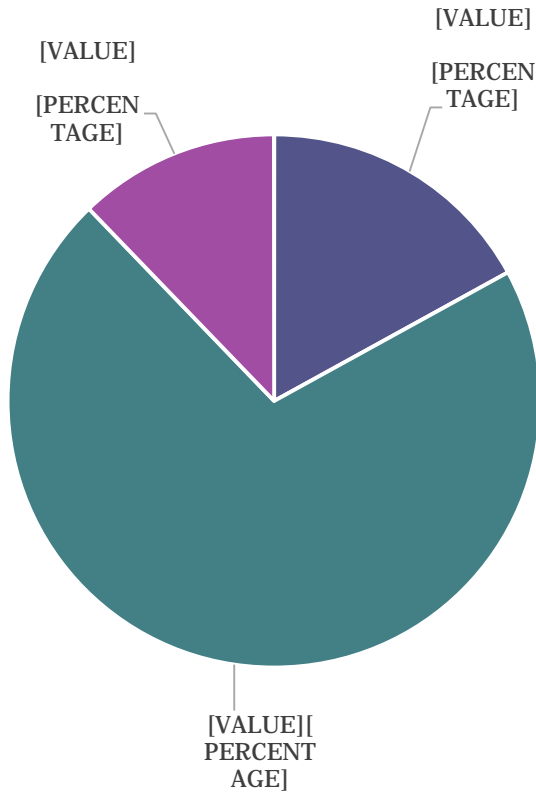
Funding Child Welfare in Nevada

SFY 18



- Administrative and Other Services
- CPS and Welfare Services- Urban Counties
- CPS and Welfare Services- Rural

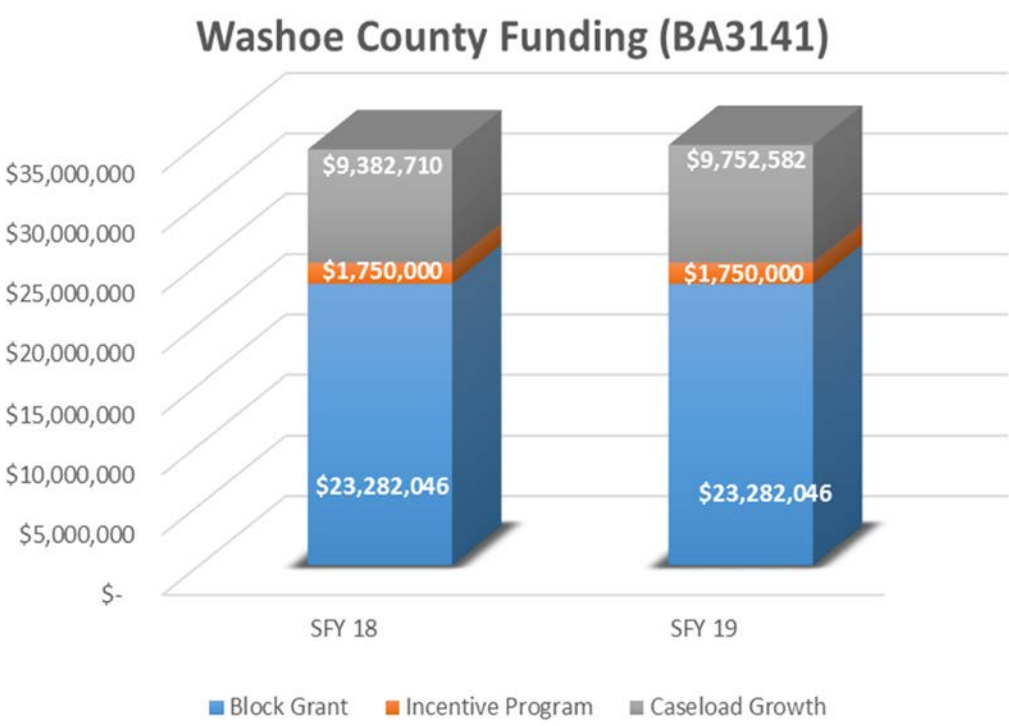
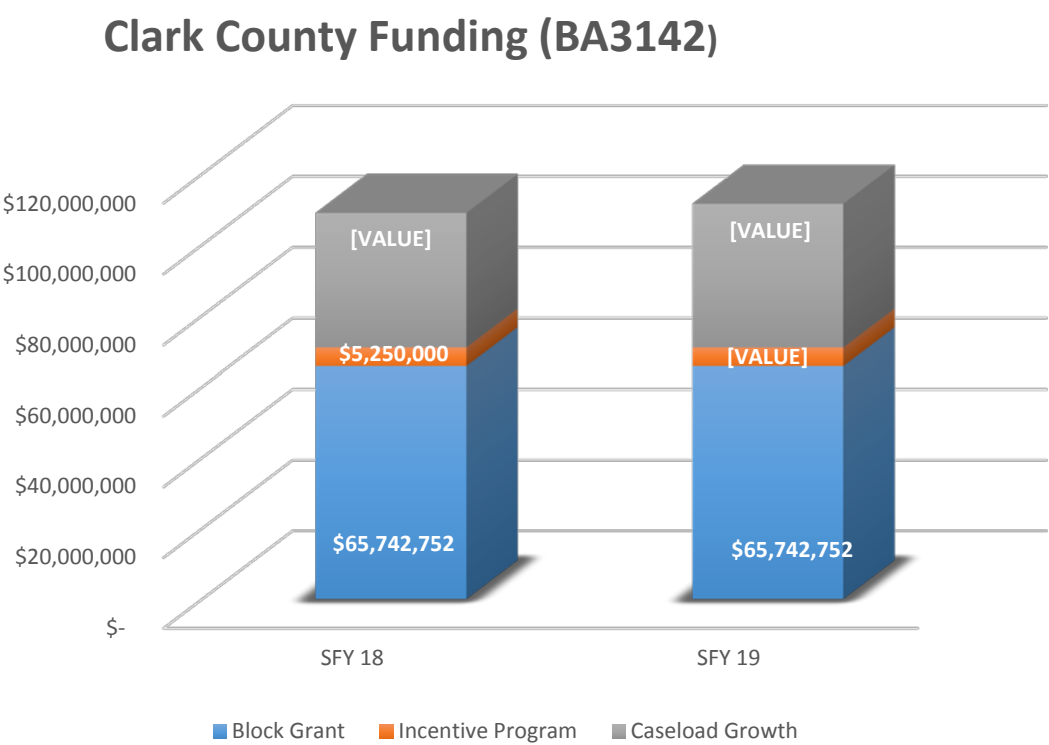
SFY 19



- Administrative and Other Services
- CPS and Welfare Services- Urban Counties
- CPS and Welfare Services- Rural

Funding Child Welfare in Nevada

- **Clark County Department of Family Services and Washoe County Department of Social Services receive an annual capped block grant each year to support child welfare services. The block grant is divided into two allocations:**
 - A base allocation for each biennium which is based on the total State General Fund appropriated for the previous biennium.
 - A second allocation which would include the estimated cost attributable to projected caseload growth for the adoption assistance program.
- **Clark County Department of Family Services and Washoe County Department of Social Services are eligible to receive incentive funds to stimulate and support improvement in key areas identified in the agency improvement plan.**

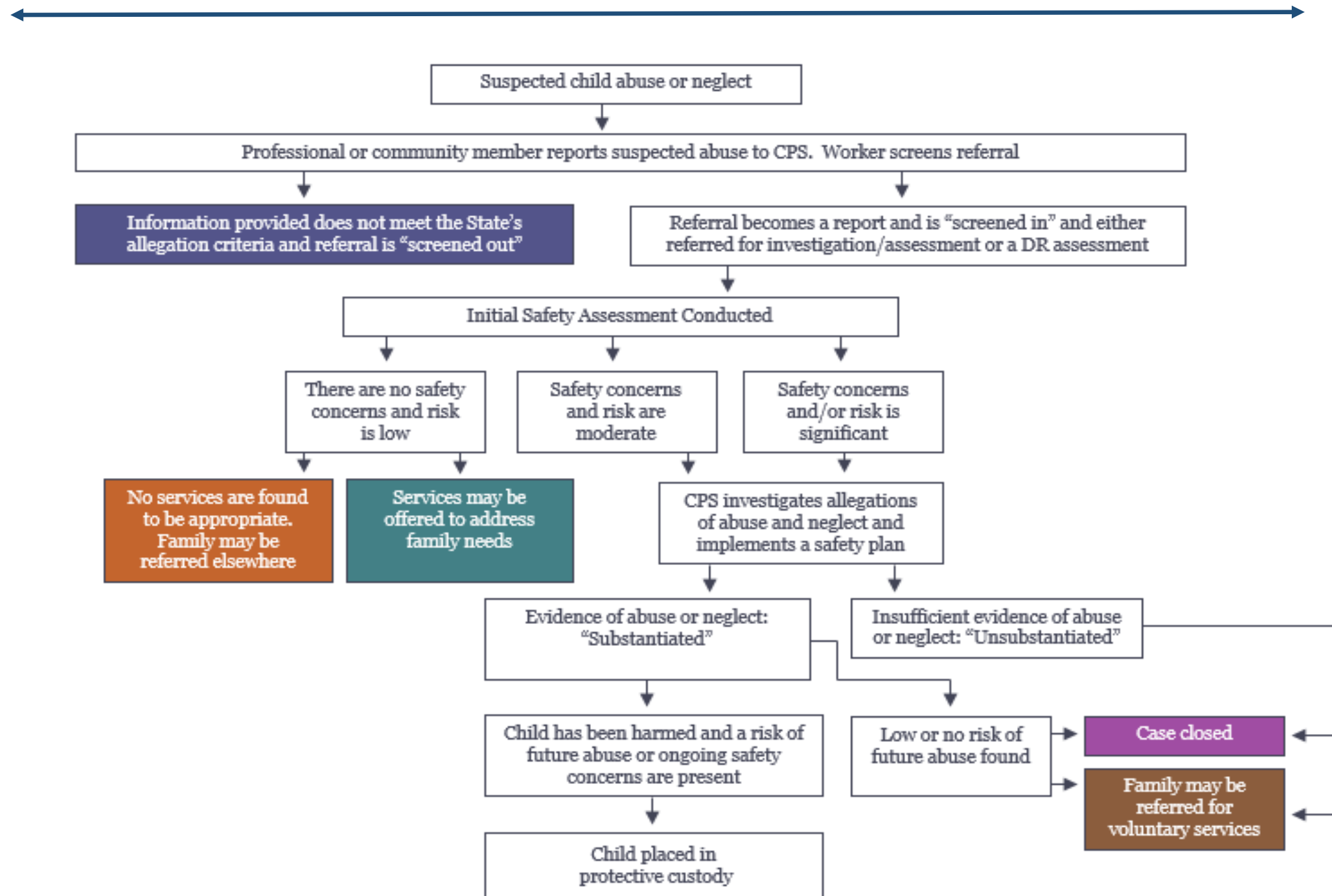




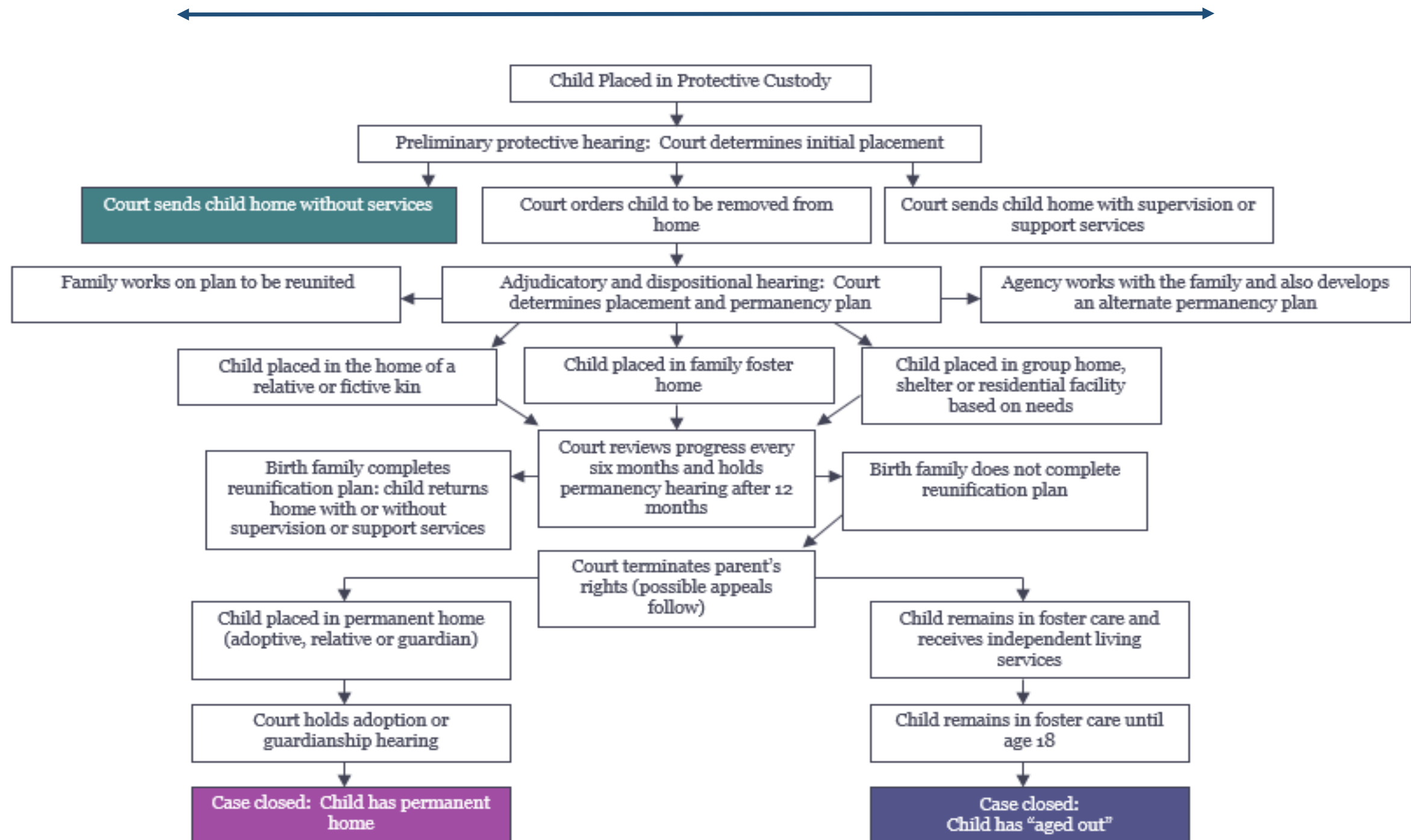
Child Welfare Services and Programs



A Family's Journey Through the Child Welfare System (continued)



A Family's Journey Through the Child Welfare System (continued)

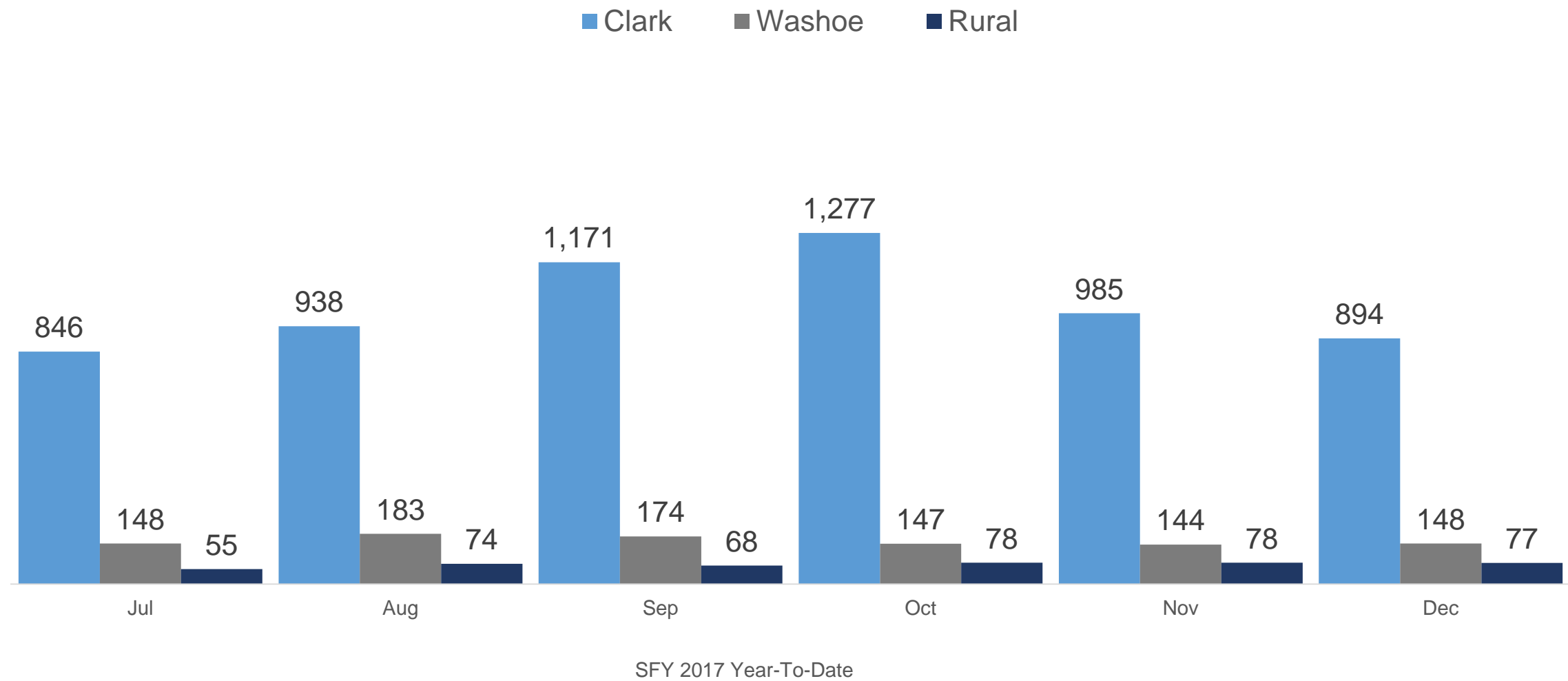


Child Protective Services (CPS)



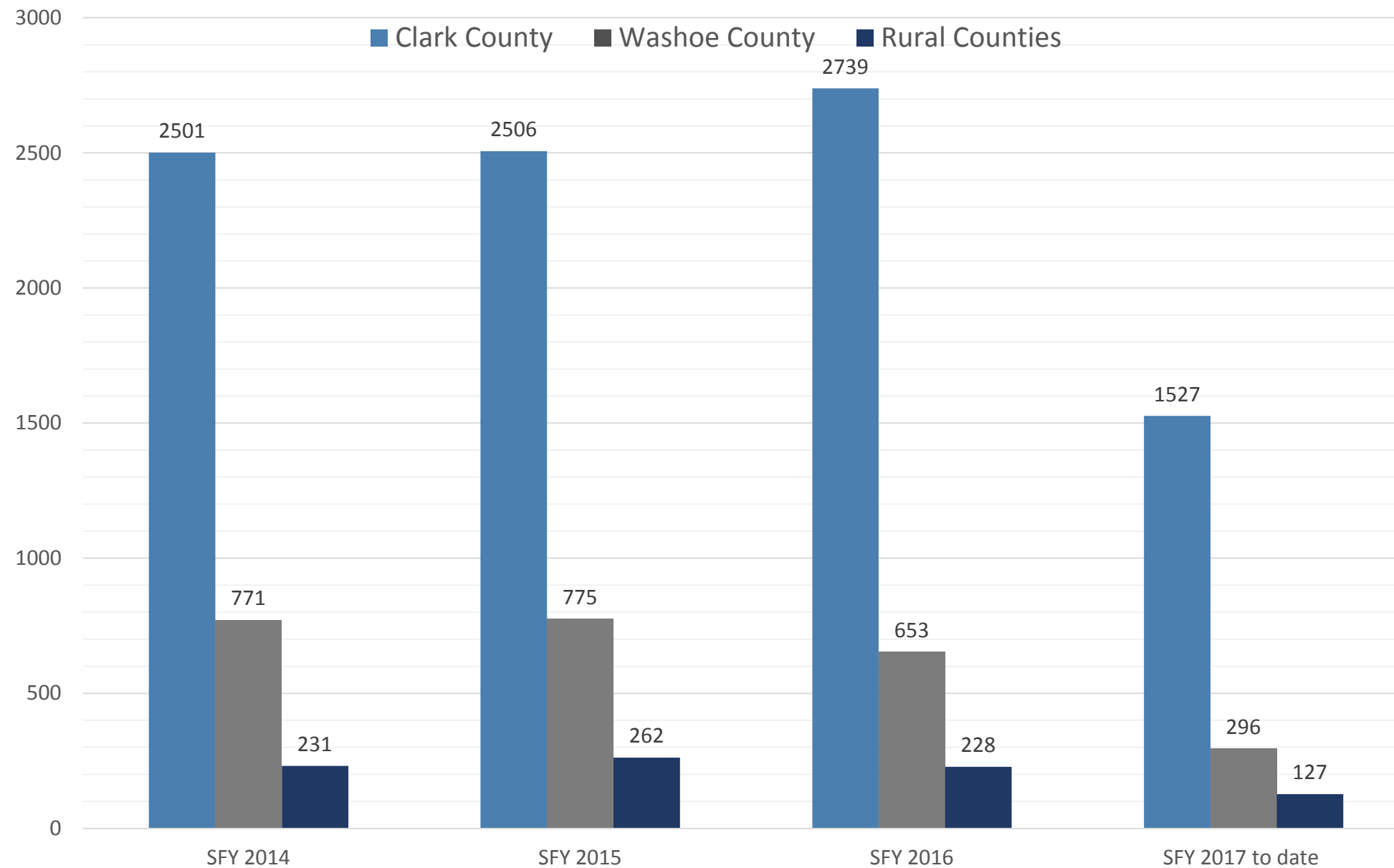
- Child Protective Services (CPS) is the first step to ensure the safety and permanency of children who are reported as being abused or neglected.
- The primary focus of CPS is to ensure that children are protected from harm or risk of harm and to make it safe for the child to live with the parent or caretaker.
- Nevada child protective service agencies conduct activities in preventing, investigating, and treating child abuse and neglect in accordance with Chapters 432 and 432B of the Nevada Revised Statutes, and Nevada's Regulations for the Protection of Children From Abuse and Neglect (NAC 432B).
- Abuse or neglect complaints include mental injury, physical abuse, sexual abuse and exploitation, negligent treatment or maltreatment, and excessive corporal punishment.

Statewide Investigations



Source: DCFS Data Book

Removals from the Home



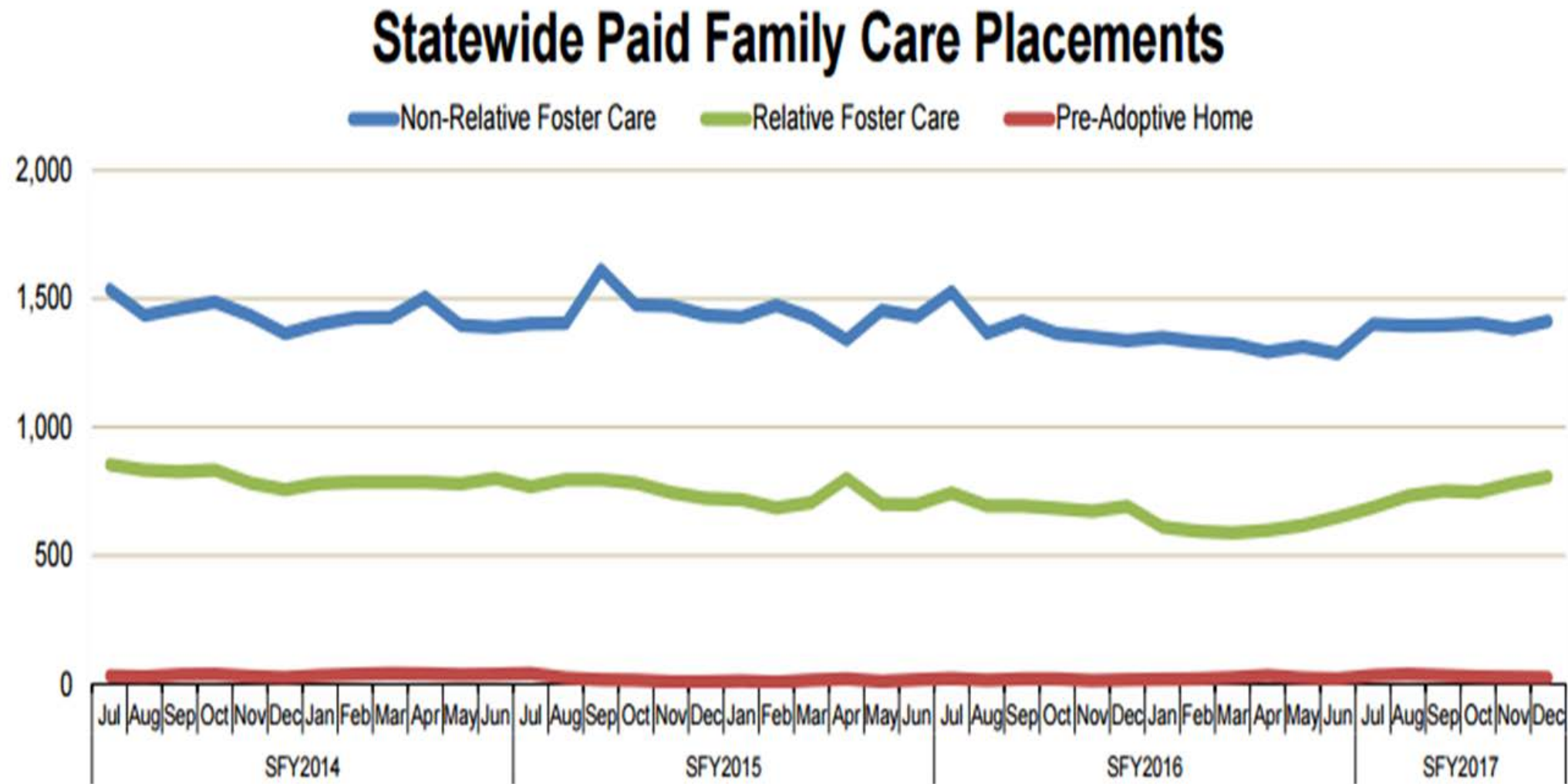
Source: DCFS Data Book

Foster Care



- The goal of the foster care system is to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children who either temporarily or permanently cannot be safely maintained in their own homes.
- Foster care is intended to be a short term situation until a permanent placement can be made. Placement preferences are:
 - Placement with relatives/fictive kin
 - Regular family foster care or specialized level care if needed
 - Shelter care
- Efforts are made to place and to maintain siblings together in the same placement.
- While in foster care a case manager is assigned to the child and his/her family to assist with case plan development and to work on minimizing the safety threats in the family so the child can be safely returned home.
- If reunification is not an option, other permanent living situations are explored such as adoption, guardianship and Other Planned Living Arrangement (OPPLA).

Out of Home Placements



Source: DCFS Data Book

Specialized Foster Care Initiative



A new model for specialized foster care was implemented on a pilot basis in 2013-2015 throughout Clark County, Washoe County, and the state's rural regions. Following the successful completion of the pilot, creation of the new model of the Specialized Foster Care Program (SFCP) was approved through the 2015 Legislature, not only to improve outcomes for foster children with special needs, but to also improve the effectiveness of monies spent for foster children suffering severe emotional disturbance (SED) within Nevada's Child Welfare System.

- The SFCP model was and is intended to reduce the sky-rocketing costs that have been paid out by Medicaid for Basic Skills Training (BST) services.
- On July 1, 2015, (SFY16) DCFS became responsible for overseeing statewide implementation and evaluation of all children placed in specialized foster care.
- The 2016/2017 Executive Budget proposed to distribute the funding recommended for specialized foster care program implementation in the urban counties through the block grant mechanism established by NRS 432B.2185. Both counties were funded at 50% for SFY16 (for partial implementation) and at 100% in SFY17 for full implementation.
- 387 youth were served in specialized foster care placements in SFY16.
- Slightly more than half of youth were male. The majority were Caucasian and non-Hispanic. The average age was approximately 11, with a range from 2 to 18.
- Specialized foster care had a substantial positive effect on placement stability across jurisdictions and placement types.
- Psychotropic medication use was common, and specialized foster care appears to improve access to psychiatric services.
- Specialized foster care led to improvements in educational outcomes with fewer absences and suspensions.
- Most children served in specialized foster care achieved permanency upon discharge during SFY16.
- Youth over the age of 11 as well as foster parents reported being satisfied with specialized foster care services.
- The cost for basic skills training (BST) was REDUCED.

Specialized Foster Care

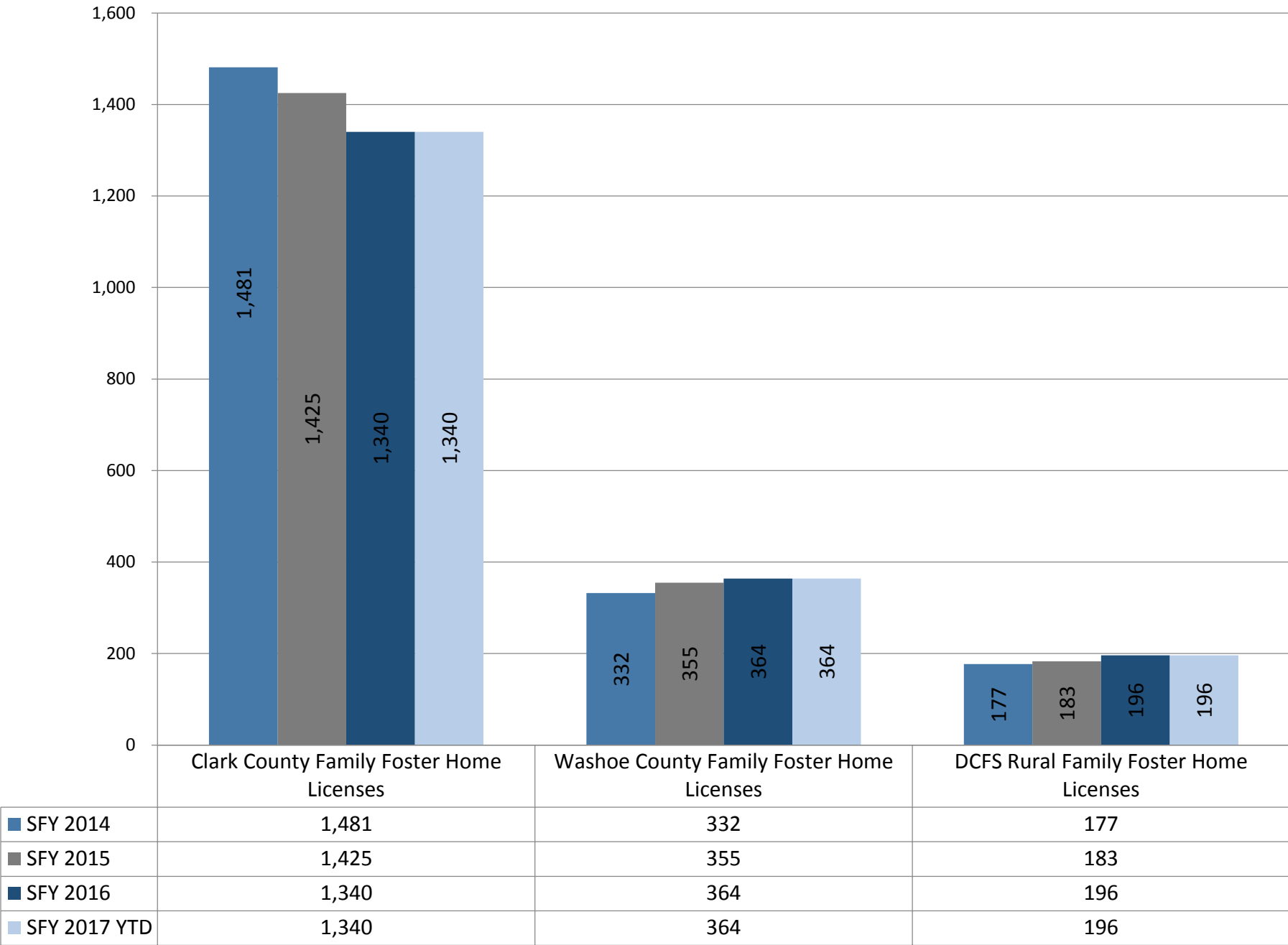
SPECIALIZED FOSTER CARE POPULATION (Only)					Breakdown by Jurisdiction		
	Total Units Bill (per 15 min Increments)	Decrease	Total BST Payments	Decrease	Clark County	Washoe County	State/Rural
SFY2015	162,419		\$1,484,932.86		\$959,084.57	\$515,458.42	\$10,289.87
					65%	35%	1%
SFY2016	36,323	-77.64%	\$330,176.07	-77.76%	\$330,176.07	\$ -	\$ -
					100%	0%	0%
	198,742		\$1,815,108.93				

Foster Parent Recruitment, Licensing and Training



- New children come into the foster care system daily resulting in a continuous need for new, qualified foster parents.
- NRS 424 is followed for the foster care licensing process to identify suitable foster families.
- All applicants and residents 18 years of age or older living in the home must complete and pass a FBI background check, and state and local background checks.
- Each Child Welfare agency has a training program that all foster families must complete.
- All training curricula covers:
 - How to interact with foster children;
 - What behaviors to expect;
 - Appropriate discipline techniques;
 - Grief, loss and attachment issues; and,
 - Information on the child welfare agency

Family Foster Homes



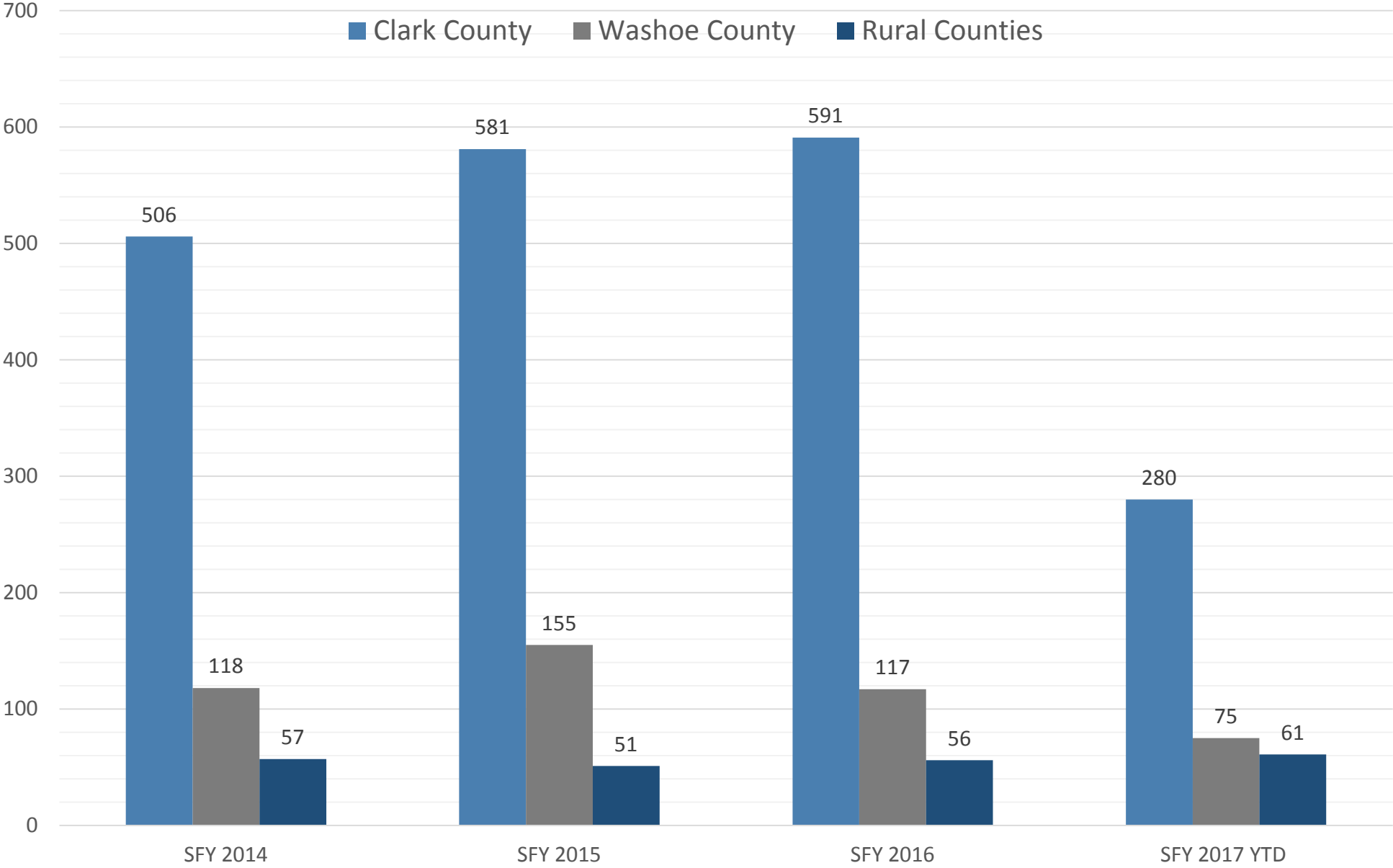
Source: DCFS Data Book

Adoption



- The goal of Nevada's adoption program is to provide safe and permanent homes for children whose birth parents cannot care for them.
- The programs are child-focused, and designed to recruit and secure the best families available to meet children's needs.
- State and county child welfare agencies responsible for the child's care must ensure that permanent adoptive homes are identified in a timely manner.
- Most foster children are adopted by relatives and foster parents, while others require additional local and national recruitment efforts to locate appropriate adoptive families.
- Adoption Assistance, which may be a monthly reimbursement or medical insurance, is available to families to encourage and support the adoption of special needs children.

Statewide Finalized Adoptions



Source: DCFS Data Book

KinGAP



- When reunification or adoption are not viable permanency options for a child in custody of a child welfare agency, legal permanency for the child can be achieved through the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KinGAP).
- The goal of KinGAP is to expedite legal permanency for children in foster care who are not able to return home or be adopted, or for Native American children for whom termination of parental rights is contrary to tribal custom.
- KinGAP provides the child the opportunity to live with relatives who have demonstrated a strong commitment to caring for the child on a permanent basis, and have developed a loving and nurturing relationship with the child.
- Once a child is deemed eligible for the Nevada KinGAP, the child will qualify either through Federal Title IV-E eligibility or through the State of Nevada general eligibility.
- NRS 432B.623(1)(a)(2) currently states that one of the eligibility requirements to apply for KinGAP is “A child must for not less than 6 consecutive months, have been eligible to receive maintenance pursuant to Part E of Title IV of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 670 et seq., while residing with the relative of the child.”
 - The child welfare agencies of Nevada have opted to remove this eligibility requirement for the program and allow children who have not been eligible to receive IV-E maintenance to qualify for assistance through the KinGAP program.

Independent Living



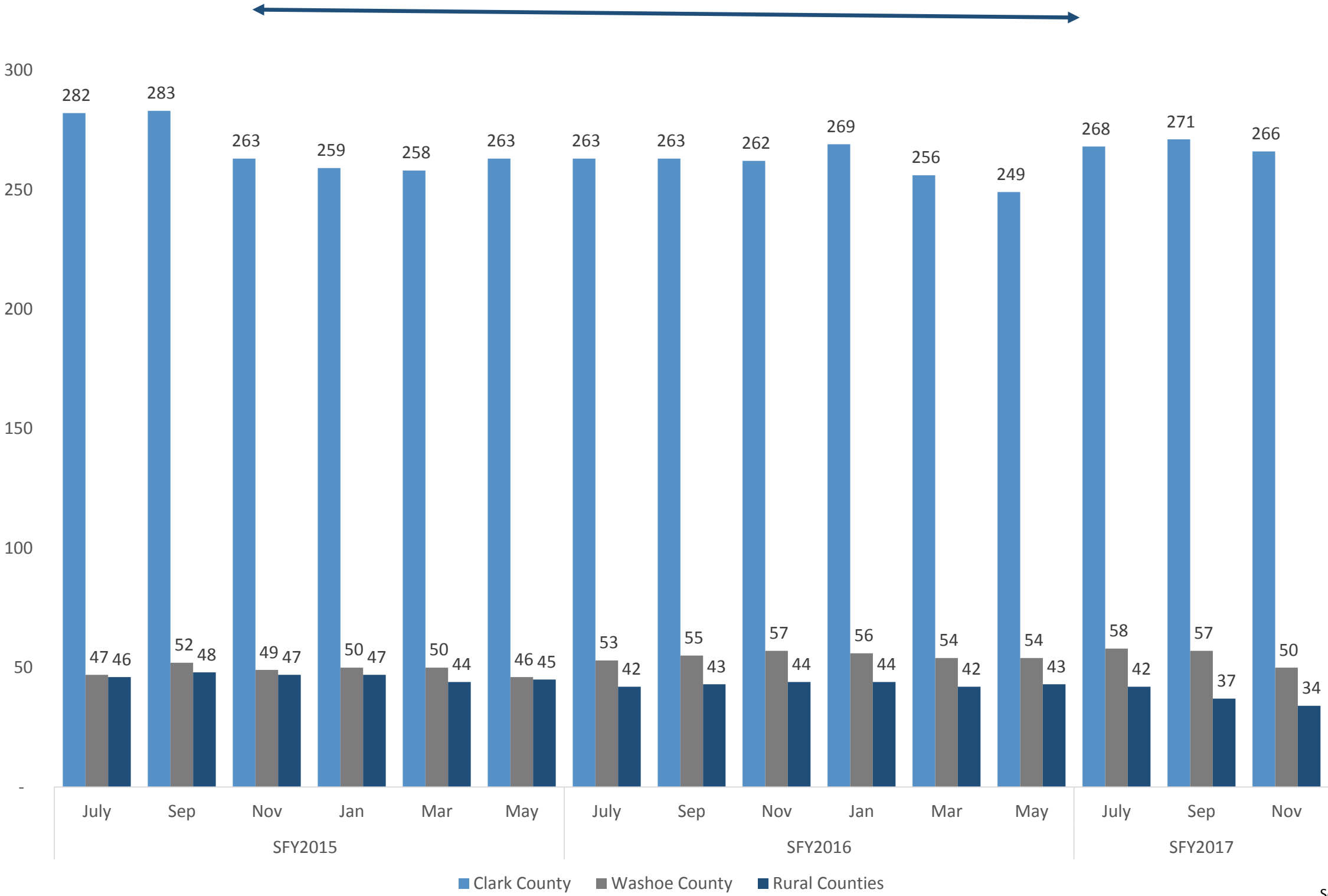
- The goal of Nevada's Independent Living Program (IL) is to prepare young adults for the transition to adulthood and to provide opportunities to obtain the skills necessary for self sufficiency.
- Independent Living is a set of services specifically designed around the needs of each youth in the program.
- Services provided are funded through two federal grants (the Chafee Independent Living (P.L. 106-169) and the Educational and Training Voucher Grants) and revenue generated from fees collected on the recording of documents.
- Additional funds for this population are made available through the fee based account, Funds to Assist Former Foster Youth (FAFFY), which is based on fees collected from an additional fee added to recorded documents in Nevada.

Court Jurisdiction



- NRS 432B.591-595 were enacted during the 2011 Legislative Session.
- Creates an opportunity for youth aging out of foster care to have additional assistance to support successful transition to adulthood.
- Youth may opt-in to this program, and have access to funds equal to the state foster care rate until age 21 and are provided case management support.
- Youth are required to comply with a transition plan and make positive steps towards self sufficiency to remain in the program.

Court Jurisdiction



Source: DCFS Data Book

Questions?



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Appendix



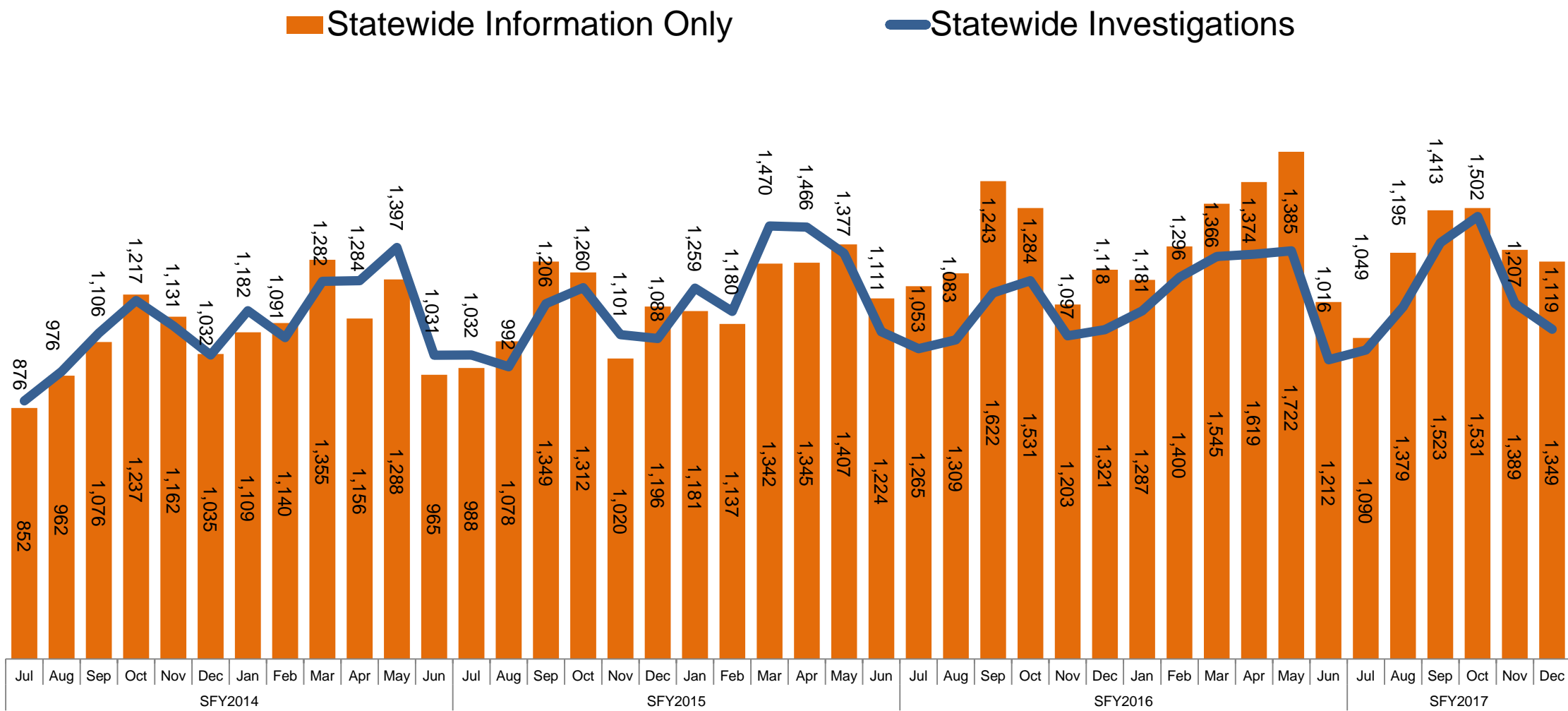
Child Protective Referrals and Investigations

Child Protective Services - Referrals and Investigations

	SFY2014		SFY2015		SFY2016		SFY2017 Year-To-Date	
Clark	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total New Referrals	19,056	100%	21,068	100%	22,883	100%	11,518	100%
Information Only	8,195	43%	8,866	42%	10,650	47%	5,297	46%
Differential Response	610	3%	768	4%	682	3%	110	1%
Investigations	10,251	54%	11,434	54%	11,551	50%	6,111	53%
Unsubstantiated	7,578	74%	8,479	74%	8,659	75%	4,077	67%
Substantiated	2,522	25%	2,258	20%	2,286	20%	1,067	17%
Washoe								
Total New Referrals	5,680	100%	5,680	100%	5,936	100%	2,749	100%
Information Only	3,200	56%	3,419	60%	3,639	61%	1,677	61%
Differential Response	276	5%	228	4%	252	4%	128	5%
Investigations	2,204	39%	2,033	36%	2,045	34%	944	34%
Unsubstantiated	1,524	70%	1,187	58%	1,307	65%	418	44%
Substantiated	681	31%	612	30%	555	28%	238	25%
Rural								
Total New Referrals	3,583	100%	3,803	100%	4,155	100%	1,928	100%
Information Only	1,942	54%	2,294	60%	2,747	66%	1,287	67%
Differential Response	491	14%	434	11%	508	12%	211	11%
Investigations	1,150	32%	1,075	28%	900	22%	430	22%
Unsubstantiated	887	77%	576	54%	484	54%	143	33%
Substantiated	178	16%	149	14%	184	21%	99	23%
Statewide								
Total New Referrals	28,319	100%	30,551	100%	32,974	100%	16,195	100%
Information Only	13,337	47%	14,579	48%	17,036	52%	8,261	51%
Differential Response	1,377	5%	1,430	5%	1,442	4%	449	3%
Investigations	13,605	48%	14,542	48%	14,496	44%	7,485	46%
Unsubstantiated	9,989	73%	10,242	70%	10,450	73%	4,638	62%
Substantiated	3,381	25%	3,019	21%	3,025	21%	1,404	19%

Source: DCFS Data Book

Statewide Referrals/Investigations

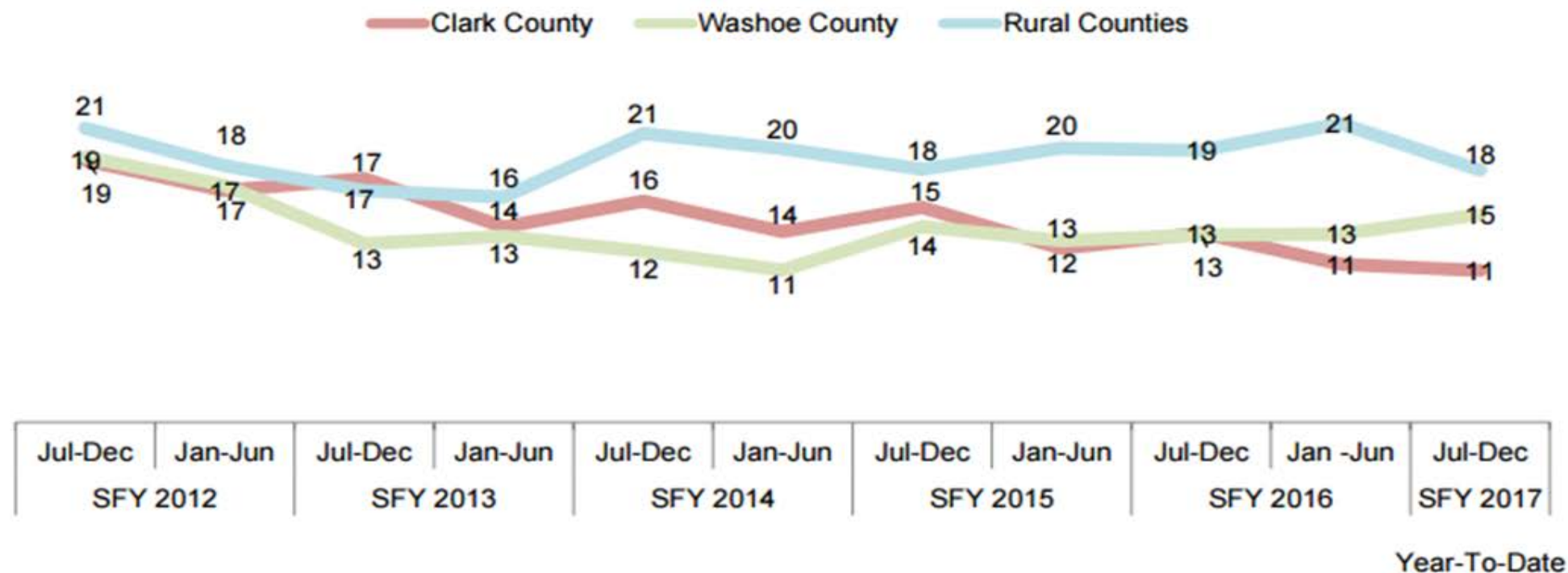


Source: DCFS Data Book

Average Length of Stay in Foster Care

Length of stay in foster care refers to the amount of time between entering and exiting foster care. Being removed from home and placed in foster care are difficult and stressful experiences for any child. The goal for every part of the child welfare system is for children to remain safely with their families or if in out-of-home care, to return home as soon as safely possible.

Average Length of Stay in Months for Children Exiting Foster Care



Source: DCFS Data Book

Statewide Services to Youth Transitioning to Adulthood as of December 31, 2016

Services to Foster Youth Transitioning to Adulthood

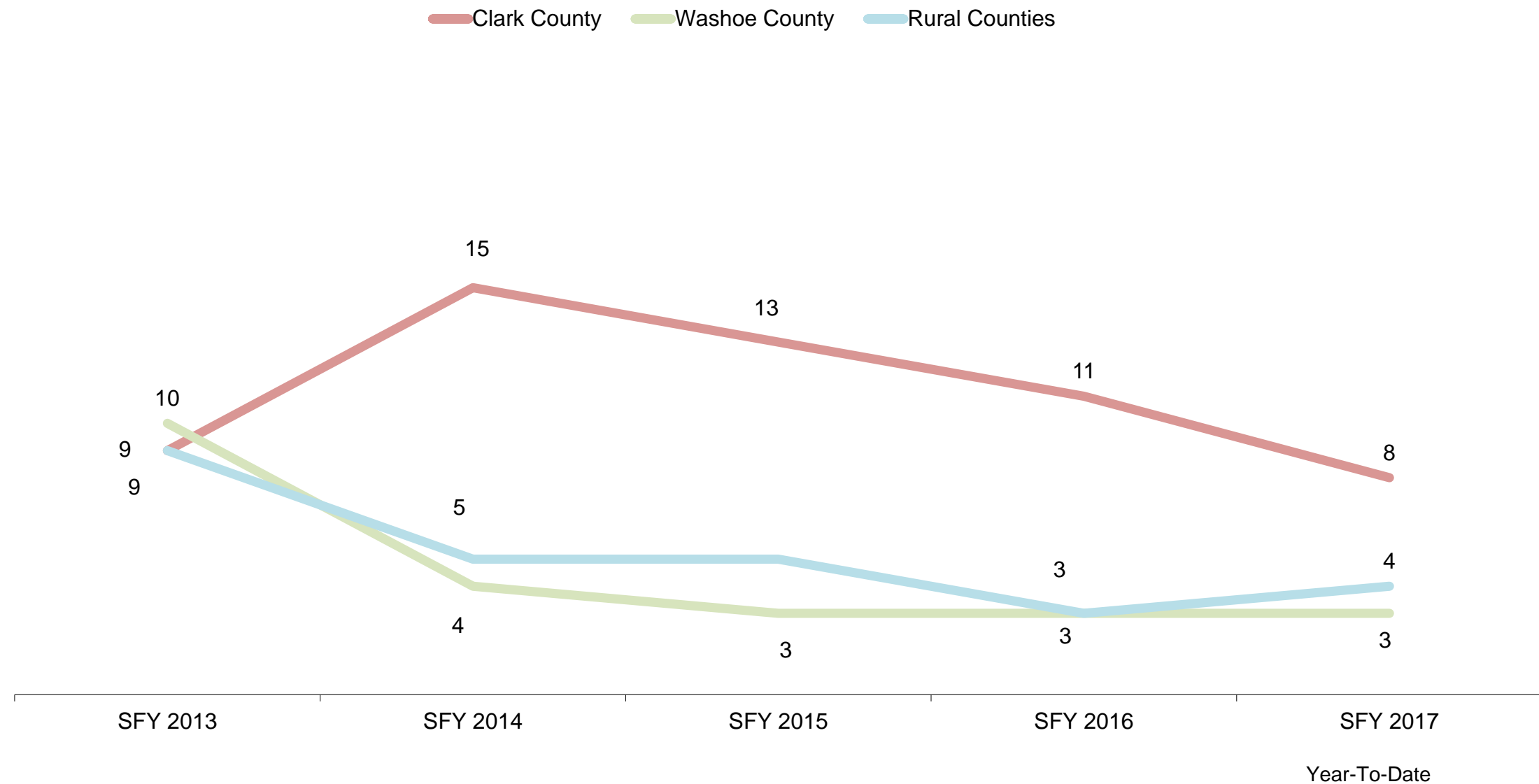
The goal of Nevada’s Independent Living Program (IL) is to prepare young adults for the transition to adulthood and to provide opportunities to obtain the skills necessary for self-sufficiency.

Statewide Services to Foster Youth Transitioning to Adulthood as of December 31, 2016

<u>Youth in Placement, Age 15 and Up</u>		<u>Youth in Placement with Goal of Emancipation</u>	
Family Care	162	Family Care	32
Pre-Adoptive Home	0	Pre-Adoptive Home	0
Residential Care	117	Residential Care	22
Shelter Care	26	Shelter Care	3
Unpaid Placements	200	Unpaid Placements	23
Independent Living	15	Independent Living	2

Source: DCFS Data Book

Average Monthly Independent Living Placements

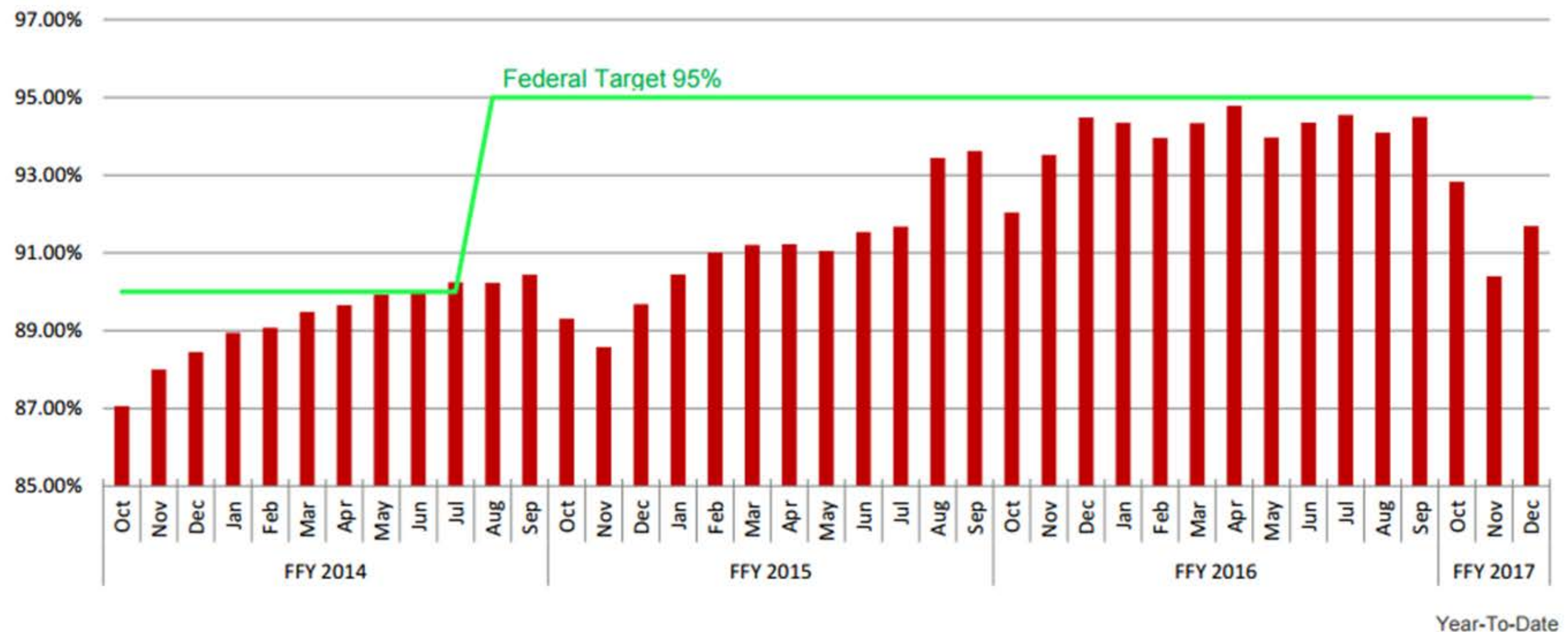


Source: DCFS Data Book

Caseworker Contact Compliance

Note: The following Caseworker Visit Compliance graphs are based on a Federal Fiscal Year which runs from October 1 through September 30.

Statewide Caseworker Contact Compliance Percentage by Federal Fiscal Year, October 1 Through September 30



Effective July 1, 2014, the Monthly Caseworker Contact Compliance rate goal was raised from 90% to 95%.

Source: DCFS Data Book

Division of Child and Family Services, Acronyms

A

ABA – Applied Behavioral Analysis
ACA – Affordable Care Act
ACF – Administration of Children and Families
ACL – Administration for Community Living
ADSD – Aging and Disability Services Division
AFDC – Aid Families with Dependent Children
AGP – Amerigroup
AMCHP – Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
AOD – Alcohol & other Drugs
AOT – Assisted Outpatient Treatment
ASPR – Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
ASTHO – Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
ARRA – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
ATAP – Autism Treatment Assistance Program

B

BEARS – (Baby) Birth Evaluation and Assessment of Risk Survey
BHCQC – Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance
BHWC – Behavioral Health and Wellness Council
BIPP – Balancing Incentive Payment Program

C

CASAT – Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies
CCDP – Child Care and Development Program
CCHD – Critical Congenital Heart Disease
CDPHP – Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
CDS – Core Data Set
CFR – Code of Federal Regulations
CHIP – Children’s Health Insurance Program
CMO – Care Management Organization
CMS – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
COA – Commission on Aging
COD – Co-Occurring Disorder
COOP – Continuity of Operations Plan
CPC – Civil Protective Custody
CPS – Child Protective Services
CSA – Core Standardized Assessment
CSPD – Commission on Services to Persons with Disabilities

D

DAFS – District Attorney Family Support
DBT – Digital Breast Tomosynthesis
DCFS – Division of Child and Family Services
DHCFP – Division of Health Care Financing and Policy
DPBH – Division of Public and Behavioral Health
DSH – Disproportionate Share Hospitals
DSM-IV – Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders IV
DSRIP – Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment
DWSS – Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

E

ECHO – Extension for Community Health Outcomes
EI – Early Intervention
EITS – Enterprise IT Services
EMS – Emergency Medical Systems
EMSC – Emergency Medical Services for Children
EMR – Electronic Medical Record
EPSDT – Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Services
EQRO – External Quality Review Organization

F

FDA – Federal Drug Administration
FFI – Federal Fiscal Year
FFS – Fee For Service
FMAP – Federal Medical Assistance Percentage

H

HAZTRAK – Hazardous Materials Notification System
HCGP – Health Care Guidance Program
HCBW-AL – Home and Community Based Waiver for Assisted Living
HCBW-FE – Home and Community Based Waiver for the Frail Elderly
HCQC – Health Care Quality and Compliance
HER – Electronic Health Record
HIPPA – Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act
HPN – Health Plan of Nevada
HPV – Human Papillomavirus
HRSA – Health Resources and Services Administration
HSAG – Health Services Advisory Group

I

ICJ – Interstate Compact For Juveniles
ICPC – Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children
ICWA - Indian Child Welfare Act
IMS – Information Management Systems

J

JJ – Juvenile Justice
JD – Juvenile Delinquency
JJAC – Juvenile Justice Advisory Council
JJAG – Juvenile Justice Advisory Group
JJIS – Juvenile Justice Information System
JJRC – Juvenile Justice Resource Center
JJPO – Juvenile Justice Programs Office

K

Kinship – Kinship in Nevada Project
KinGAP – Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program

M

MCRT – Mobile Crisis Response Team
MDHS – Mental Health and Development Services
MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

N

NNCAS – Northern Nevada Child and Adolescent
NYTC – Northern Nevada Youth Training Center
NCANS – National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System
NCJA – National Criminal Justice Association
NIC – National Institute of Corrections
NPT – Nevada Partnership for Training

O

OPPLA – Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement

P

PREA – Prison Rape Elimination Act

S

SACWIS – Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System
SED – Severe Emotional Disturbance
SFCP – Specialized Foster Care Program
SNCAS – Southern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services
SOC – System of Care
SOW – Scope of Work
SVYCC – Summit View Youth Correctional Center

T

TIR – Technology Investment Request

U

UNITY – Unified Nevada Information Technology for Youth
UNLV – University of Las Vegas, Nevada
UNR – University of Reno, Nevada

V

VOCA – Victims of Crime Act

W

WDSS – Washoe County Department of Social Services
WIN – Wrap-around in Nevada